

THE NEW ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE

The first announcement of Robert Bacon's appointment as assistant secretary of state, made on the 4th, was prudently accompanied with presidential assurances that the selection had been decided upon before J. Pierpont Morgan's visit to President Roosevelt, made while the Russian and Japanese plenipotentiaries were at a deadlock; for Mr. Bacon, who is Mr. Morgan's friend, is a director in various Morgan corporations, including the steel trust, and until recently was Mr. Morgan's business partner. Even if this singular appointment was decided upon when Mr. Root was chosen secretary of state, as some of the apologetic dispatches affirm, it is somewhat significant, in the absence of explanations, that plans for placing the minister to Japan, Mr. Lloyd C. Griscom, into the office of assistant secretary should have been upset for the purpose of giving that office to Mr. Morgan's protege and former partner. When it was reported during the presidential campaign that Mr. Morgan had called upon President Roosevelt, then a candidate, the president's managers denied the report, and denied it indignantly. But there is no question that this visitor, unwelcome during the campaign, was not unwelcome when he called upon the president during the deadlock between the Rus-

sian and Japanese plenipotentiaries. The appointment of Mr. Morgan's protege, on the heels of the Russian-Japanese settlement which came on the heels of Mr. Morgan's visit, and was followed by great laudations of Mr. Roosevelt for his mysterious part in it, is therefore full of interest; and this interest is in no degree diminished by the earnest protestations that the appointment of Mr. Bacon had been decided on before Mr. Morgan's visit.—Louis F. Post in The Public.

BILL NYE'S REPLY

The late Bill Nye replied as follows to a correspondent who inquired about his habits of work and life:

"When the weather is such that I cannot exercise in the open air I have a heavy pair of dumbbells at my lodgings, which I use for holding the door open. I also belong to an athletic club and a pair of Indian clubs with red handles. I owe much of my robust health to this.

"I do most of my writing in a sitting posture or in an autograph album. When I am not engaged in thought I am employed in recovering from its effects. I am very genial and pleasant to be thrown amongst.

"I dress expensively, but not so as to attract attention. In the morning I wear morning dress, in the evening I wear evening dress, and at night I wear night dress."—Denver Times.

BOOKS RECEIVED

The New Revelation, Its Marvelous Message. By Nathan Ward Fitzgerald, Tacoma, Wash. Price \$1.00, postpaid.

Yourie Gardenin. A Russian Character Sketch. Published by the Neale Publishing Company, New York and Washington. Price \$1.50.

The Romance of Gentle Will. Clyde C. Westover. Neale Publishing Company, New York and Washington. Price \$1.50.

The Land of the Rising Sun. By Gregoire De Wollant. The Neale Publishing Company, New York and Washington. Price \$1.50.

Municipal Ownership and Operation of Public Utilities in New York City. By Samuel Seabury. Municipal Ownership Publishing Co., 201 Duane Street, New York City, N. Y.

Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. By Marion Hughes. Mooney & Greene, 554 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill. Price 25 cents.

Glad Tidings (No. 1) How to Obtain Happiness and Health. By John J. Snyder, P. O. Box 427, Chicago, Ill.

Words of Life for 1905. Selected and Arranged by William Salter, D. D. It may be had of A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, or of E. C. Gnahn, of Mauro & Wilson, Burlington, Ia. Price \$1.00.

Letters of a Self-Made President. By James J. Neville. J. S. Ogilvie Publishing Company, 57 Rose Street, New York.

Our Philippine Problem. A Study of American Colonial Policy. By Henry Holt & Company, New York.

J. S. Ogilvie Publishing Company, 57 Rose street, New York, has published a little volume entitled "Letters of a Self-Made President," by James J. Neville. It is a series of letters which in the opinion of the author represent the opinions of the president on various questions. It is written from the standpoint of a critic rather than an admirer.

Recollections of a Confederate Staff Officer. By General G. Moxley Sorrel, with introduction by Senator John W. Daniel. The Neale Publishing Company, New York and Washington. Price \$2.00.

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